

**From:** Jonathan Jacobs  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/21/02 11:47am  
**Subject:** Anti-trust settlement

To whom it may concern:

I strongly encourage you to maintain the strongest possible opposition to Microsoft's attempts to continue the abuse of its monopolistic practices. The evidence accumulated over the its existence unmistakably points to the conclusion that without drastic and enforced remedies, Microsoft will never alter its unethical, and occasionally, criminal behavior.

Much has been said (almost entirely by Microsoft and its associates, whether openly identified as such, or not) about Microsoft's history of innovation and its critical importance to the computer industry and to the economy of the United States. These arguments are without merit. Microsoft's 'innovations' have been made by the co-opting of other companies' technologies, either by outright purchase of said companies, or by blatant theft, or destruction of their opponents. This has led to a stagnation of true advances in the computer industry, and a serious weakening of the foundations of computing in general. Just as in biology, diversity is necessary for growth, progress and viability of an organism, the uniformity and flaws of a Microsoft-dominated industry has grave potential consequences, some of which have already been felt.

Mr. Gates recently proclaimed that Microsoft's new goal is security. This is laughable. It is also dangerous and frightening to consider the risk to national security that already exists, let alone what will happen if Microsoft is allowed to proceed unhindered in its stated goal of "Microsoft Everywhere."

Sincerely,

Dr. Jonathan Jacobs

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"Theory and practice are the same in theory, but different in practice."

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<<http://esys10287.esys.cwru.edu/peggy/>> odds and ends.

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